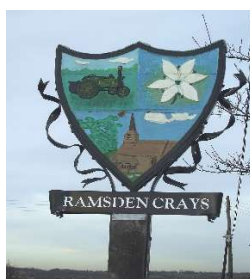


Ramsden Crays Parish Council



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.00pm at The Shepherd & Dog Public House

Attendance:

Cllrs. Kirby, Jenkins & Cook

Cllrs. Ball & Buckley– Essex County Council

Parish Clerk/RFO: E Beadle

2 Members of the public

1. Introduction and welcome from the Chairman

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs. Pusey, Bailey & Sargent

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 13th May 2024

All agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Kirby, seconded by Cllr. Jenkins **RESOLVED** Signed by Cllr. Kirby.

4. Chairman's Report - Attached

5. Comments and suggestions from residents of Ramsden Crays

None

Councillors Ball and Buckley expressed thanks to David McPherson-Davis for his many years serving the Parish Council and wish him a happy retirement.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

Chairman **Date**

Ramsden Crays Parish Council



Chairman's Report – 12th May 2025

Welcome to the residents and Councillors.

The Chairman's report includes information on the work and activities of the Parish Council. The Parish Council meetings are held once a month, on the second Monday of every month except August. Due to us having no other venue available in Crays Hill the meetings are currently held at the Shepherd & Dog Public House which is closed for business on a Monday with the kind permission of Councillor Becky Bailey. Details of all our meetings and activities are posted on our website.

Unfortunately, due to our previous Chairman David McPherson-Davis and his wife deciding to move away to be closer to their family we said goodbye to David in December. I would like to say a big thank you to Dave and his wife Lyn who was always there to support Dave in his role of Chairman, a job he did admirably for over 25 years. He mentioned to me the other day on the phone that his local Parish Council up near Derby has a vacancy He may not be ready to give it up completely yet.

We are currently operating with a full Council of five Councillors and residents are always welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings and have an opportunity to raise any issues at our meetings or contact any of our Parish Councillors.

Projects

We have managed to secure two grants, one from our County Councillors and one with the help of Wickford Town Council.

Thank you to Councillors Tony Ball, Malcolm Buckley and Alan Ball from Wickford.

These two grants will be going towards our new Queen Elizabeth II commemorative bench and pathway at the War Memorial.

Unfortunately, Highways at Essex County Council have been very unhelpful with processing the paperwork, but installation will hopefully be soon.

We have been spending more of our budget with tidying and maintaining the Parish gardens, our gardener Woody is doing a grand job.

The bus shelters continue to be cleaned once a month.

We are always looking for new projects to improve our village.

The Memorial Service last year was very well attended and numbers attending increase every year. My thanks to Becky for allowing us to use the marquee and providing a fantastic spread of sandwiches and cakes. Also, I would like to thank Lay Preacher Mike Tricker for conducting the service and also our Police Officers who attend to show their respect and escort us safely to and from the Memorial.

Planning

The Parish Council is consulted on all relevant planning applications, all of which are posted on our website. Some we will agree with and some we will recommend for refusal. Residents are also welcome to comment on these applications.

The final decision rests with Basildon Planning Department. We will also bring to the attention of Basildon Planning Department any potential unauthorised developments that are reported to us.

Local Council Tax

We are now into our third year running that we have managed to not increase our Parish Precept, thereby saving our residents a small amount again.

Finally, I would like to thank all our Councillors, both Parish and County for attending our meetings and helping to give something back to our community.

And, very lastly, a big thank you to Emma our Clerk for doing so much of the back stage work that allows us to operate as a Parish Council.

Councillor Michael Kirby
Chairman